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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Georges Gosselin et al.
Atty. Docket No.: 14701-1US MJS/SC/sm
Serial No.: 09/983,043
Filed: October 22, 2001
Title: "Bolted Metal Joist and Method of Manufacturing the Same"
Group Art Unit: 3635

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a PTO/SB/08A/B form is a listing of the documents known to applicant in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Copies of the listed documents are also being submitted herewith to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, with copies of English translations of non-English language references or of the pertinent portions thereof, if such translations are readily available. If applicable, English copies of foreign search reports citing at least some of the documents herein listed on PTO/SB/08A/B are also enclosed.

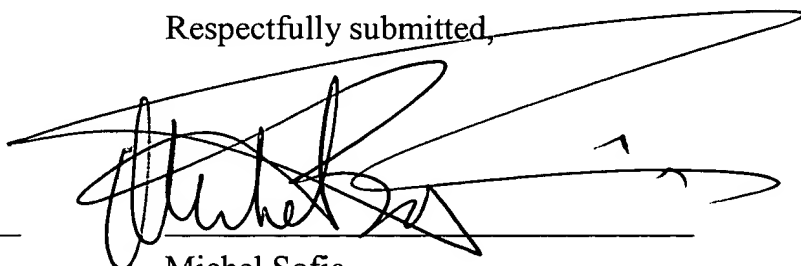
The submission of any document which is not a statutory bar is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Statement of Relevancy

The listed document is being submitted either in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the filing date of a national application or of the date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1), within three (3) months from the date of an office action or of a search report issued in a foreign counterpart application citing each of the documents contained in the present statement; or pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (e)(2), within three (3) months from the first knowledge of each submitted document by any individual designated in C.F.R. §1.56 (c), when each such document was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

In the case of submissions under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1) and (2), the undersigned Attorney/Agent of Record hereby certifies that the enclosed references are hereby submitted within three months (1) from the issuance of the foreign action or search report, or (2) from said first knowledge, respectively.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michel Sofia', is written over a horizontal line.

Michel Sofia
Registration No. 37,017

Date: January 9, 2002

SWABEY OGILVY RENAULT
1981 McGill College Avenue #1600
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2Y3
Tel.: (514) 845-7126

Encls. - Form PTO/SB/08A/B and copy of 9 references